LESSON TWO DEFINITIONS PG 1

Lesson Two

1. **impotent** (im´ pə tənt) *adj.* powerless; lacking strength
   Without the gun, he felt *impotent.*
   syn: ineffective; helpless *ant: potent; powerful*

2. **antithesis** (an tith´ i sis) *n.* an exact opposite; an opposite extreme
   Love is the *antithesis* of hate.
   syn: converse *ant: same*

3. **maelstrom** (māl´ strəm) *n.* whirlpool; turbulence; agitated state of mind
   His emotions were like a *maelstrom*, and he couldn't decide what course to follow.

4. **emendation** (ē´men dā´ shən) *n.* a correction
   The last edition of the book contains many *emendations.*
   syn: improvement; amendment

5. **chagrin** (shə grin´) *n.* embarrassment; a complete loss of courage
   Joanne had never felt such *chagrin* as when she fell into the mud puddle in front of her fiancé's family.

6. **bauble** (bô´ bəl) *n.* a showy but useless thing
   John had to find some kind of *bauble* to give Mary for Christmas.
   syn: trinket

7. **diaphanous** (dī af´ ə nəs) *adj.* very sheer and light
   The *diaphanous* gown was beautiful, but Gloria wasn't sure she had the nerve to wear it.
   syn: transparent; gossamer *ant: opaque*

8. **labyrinth** (lab´ ə rinth) *n.* a complicated network of winding passages; a maze
   The mice were made to run through a *labyrinth* in order to reach their food.

9. **gloat** (glōt) *v.* to look at or think about with great satisfaction
   The track team *gloated* over their latest victory.
   syn: revel; crow

10. **impediment** (im ped´ ə mənt) *n.* a barrier; obstruction
    The supervisor wouldn't be an *impediment* to her advancement.
    syn: obstacle; hindrance *ant: aid*

LESSON TWO DEFINITIONS PG 2

11. **bestial** (bes´ chəl) *adj.* savage; brutal
He took a *bestial* delight in tormenting the captive slaves.
syn: brutish; vile; cruel *ant: humane; kind*

12. **effete** (e fēt´) *adj.* worn out; barren
Although worn down by age and a life of hard work, the man was far from *effete.*
syn: exhausted; spent and sterile *ant: vital; vigorous*

13. **shard** (shärd) *n.* a fragment
The doctor pulled a *shard* of glass from the girl's arm.

14. **bland** (bland) *adj.* mild; tasteless; dull
His *bland* manner had a calming effect on the children.
syn: smooth; agreeable *ant: exciting; thrilling*

15. **nihilism** (nī´ ə liz´əm) *n.* a total rejection of established laws
Nihilism rejects established laws and order, but it offers nothing in their place.

LESSON TWO EXERCISE 2 SENTENCE COMPLETION

EXERCISE II—Sentence Completion

Complete the sentence in a way that shows you understand the meaning of the italicized vocabulary word.

1. People knew that Jimmy practiced *nihilism* when he…
2. Todd's parents did not hide their *chagrin* after their son…
3. Heidi's friends did not want to hear her *gloat* about…
4. *Shards* of broken taillights littered the highway after…
5. The crowd knew that the *impotent* boxer would not be able to…
6. When Dave submitted a term paper that required *emendations*, the teacher…
7. Mary scolded Bert for wasting money on useless *baubles*, such as…
8. Ashley was suspended for wearing a *diaphanous* shirt to…
9. The mall is a *labyrinth*, so check the map or you will…
10. Vicky caused a *maelstrom* of panic when she told everyone that…
11. Chrissie is the *antithesis* of Ben, because she is friendly to strangers while he…
12. The largest *impediment* to crossing the river is…
13. Your dinner will taste *bland* if you do not…
14. The team must change its *effete* stratergy if…
15. The soldier endured *bestial* treatment after…

LESSON TWO EXERCISE 3 ROOTS, PREFIXES, SUFFIXES

EXERCISE III—Roots, Prefixes, and Suffixes

Study the entries and answer the questions that follow.

The root *somn* means "sleep."
The root *pot* means "to drink."
The root *vac* means "empty."
The root *sid* means "to sit" or "to settle."
The prefix *e* means "out" or "completely."
The prefix *in* means "not."
The prefix *dis* means "not" or "apart."
The prefix *pre* means "before" or "in front of."

1. Using literal translations as guidance, define the following words without using a dictionary.

   A. evacuate
   B. vacate
   C. potation
   D. dissenter
   E. reside
   F. president

2. A magic drink is often called a[n] _____.

   Water from the stream will not be _____, or drinkable, until you boil it.

3. If you cannot sleep, then you might have a condition called _____.

   Somnolent music might help you to _____.

4. *Insidious* literally translates to "sitting in," but the word means "secretly working to cause harm." Explain the possible connection between the actual and literal definitions of *insidious*.

5. List as many words as you can think of that contain the root *sid*.

LESSON TWO EXERCISE 4 INFERENCE

EXERCISE IV—Inference

Complete the sentences by inferring information about the italicized word from its context.

1. If Larry *gloated* about his skills after the last bowling tournament, then one can probably assume that…

2. Sometime Nikki wakes up too early because the *diaphanous* curtains over the bedroom windows do not…

3. Keith scolded the children, but then he felt immense *chagrin* when his wife told him that the damage to the car was…